

55TH
201540
55

LIBRARY

COWBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

●

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH . . .

For the YEAR 1943

●

D. Brown & Sons, Printers, Cowbridge.

COWBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cowbridge Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Cowbridge Rural Area for the year 1943 prepared in accordance with Circular 10/44 (Wales) dated 15th February, 1944 and Article 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations 1935 and Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1936.

The report has again been restricted to essential matters and for security purposes no details which would assist the enemy have been included.

Two new Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinics were opened during the year. One in the village of Llanharry and the other in Cowbridge—a joint Clinic with the Cowbridge Borough.

The birth rate of 22.5 is the highest for Rural Districts in the County of Glamorgan, the second highest for the whole of the Administrative County and the highest recorded in the Cowbridge Rural District since 1927.

On the instructions of the Welsh Board of Health special reference is made to Diphtheria Immunisation and Water Supplies.

I wish to thank the Officers and members of the staff of the Public Health Department for their assistance in the preparation of this report.

I am, Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

DAVID J. EVANS,

July 1944

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE
AREA.

Area (in acres)	40,020
-----------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	--------

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Crude Bir.R'te
BIRTH RATE	..... 22.5
Birth Rate for England and Wales	..... 16.5
Birth Rate of Administrative County of Glamorgan	..... 18.4
Birth Rate for Rural Districts in Glamorgan	..... 18.3

DEATH RATE.

Crude Death Rate	.....	.....	..... 11.9
Death Rate for England and Wales	.....	.....	..... 12.1
Death rate for administrative County of Glamorgan	.....	.....	..... 12.4
Death rate for Rural Districts in Glamorgan	.....	.....	..... 11.2

STILL BIRTHS.

The 9 Still Births constitute a rate of 32.7 per 1000 total Births.

PUERPERAL SEPSIS, ETC.

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	.....	3
Deaths from other Maternal causes		1
Total	.....	<hr/>4 <hr/>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	.....	62
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.....	53
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	.....	300.0
Deaths from Cancer (all causes)	.....	21
Deaths from Measles (under 2 years)	.....	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (under 2 years)	.....	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	.....	—

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1.—(a) MEDICAL OFFICERS—

D. J. Evans, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), Medical Officer of Health (Part Time), Medical Officer of Health for Cowbridge Borough Council, Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Cowbridge District.

R. Bruce Munro, M.B., B.S. (London) D.P.H. (Wales), Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. (Part time).

(b) OTHER OFFICERS—

Ernest Whone, M.B.E., F.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

Hubert Thomas, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

Miss E. Rawnsley, Health Visitor and Tuberculosis Visitor (whole time) Full General Training, Qualified Midwife, and Health Visitors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

BIRTHS REGISTERED—

Legitimate Live Births	143
Illegitimate Live Births	7
Legitimate Still Births	7
Illegitimate Still Births	—
Transferred Births	126
	— 283

NOTIFIED WITHIN 36 HOURS.

Live Births by Midwives	140
Still Births by Midwives	4
Live Births by Doctors	—
Still Births by Doctors	—

NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS—

Legitimate, under one year	14
Illegitimate, under one year	3
Legitimate, one to five years	—
Illegitimate, one to five years	—

VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITOR—

To Infants under one year	1st Visits	303
do.	Re-Visits	462
To Infants over 1 and under 5	1st Visits	27
do. do.	Re-Visits	1,321
TOTAL		<hr/> 2,113 <hr/>

ANTE-NATAL VISITS to mothers in their own home—

First Visits	38	
Re-Visits	44	Total 82

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :—

	Llanharan	Llantwit Major	Llanharry *	Cowbridge †
Number of Sessions	25	12	6	4
Number of Names on Register	204	111	50	26
First attendances under one year	115	52	21	11
Repeat Attendances under one year	470	119	34	7
First Attendances on to five years	85	53	29	15
Repeat Attendances one to five years	389	119	34	6
TOTAL	1059	343	118	39
Average Attendance per Clinic	42.3	29.	19	9.7

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS :—

	Llanharan	Llantwit Major	Llanharry *	Cowbridge †
Expectant Mothers, first attendances	72	66	9	8
Expectant mothers, repeat attendances	74	66	5	1
TOTAL	146	132	14	9
Number of Sessions	13	12	6	4
Average attendance per Clinic	11.2	11.	2.	2.2

* Llanharry Clinic was opened in July, 1943.

† Cowbridge Clinic opened on 5th October, 1943. These figures are for attendances from Cowbridge Rural Area only.

DENTAL TREATMENT :—

Expectant mothers receiving Dental Treatment	.....	.....	10
Expectant or nursing mothers receiving Dentures	.....	.....	11
Children under five years receiving Dental Treatment	.....		5
Children under five years sent to Bridgend Hospital for Tonsillectomy	.....	.....	6

MATERNITY HOSPITAL :—

Number of Mothers sent to Hospital for Confinement under the Council's Scheme	.....	.....	64
Sale of Baby Food, Virol, Roboleine, etc., approximately			£325

Laboratory Facilities :—

The laboratory facilities remain the same as previous years.

Ambulance Facilities :—

There is no change in the Ambulance Facilities.

Other Treatment Centres :—

Disease	Clinic
Tuberculosis	Welsh National Memorial Association Clinics at Bridgend and Pontypridd.
Venereal Disease	Clinics are held at Pontypridd, Port Talbot and Barry.
Mental Diseases	School Clinic at Bridgend and U.D. Council Clinic at Pontypridd.

Hospitals :—

(a) GENERAL HOSPITALS.

(a) Cardiff Royal Infirmary; (b) Bridgend Cottage Hospital and (c) Bridgend Infirmary.

(b) ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL.

The Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff has a Convalescent Hospital at Crossways, Cowbridge, at which Orthopaedic cases are treated.

(c) INFECTIOUS CASES.

Cases from this area are admitted to the Joint Hospital situate at Cefn Hirgoed, near Bridgend.

(d) MATERNITY HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES.

There are no maternity hospitals or nursing homes in the area. Cases from this district can be admitted to the Maternity Block of the Bridgend Infirmary. Difficult cases may also be removed to the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Persons not in a position to pay are, in some cases, assisted by the Council.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

(a) Diphtheria.

Of the 23 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year, two proved to be negative. These figures include eight children that had been immunised. There were two deaths from the disease—including one child that had undergone immunisation.

Immunisation. Every effort was made during the year to attract further children to be immunised. The following table indicates the numbers immunised under the age groups :—

CHILDREN IMMUNISED DURING THE YEAR 1943.				
Half-year to 30/6/43		Half-year to 31/12/43		
1 to 5 years	5 to 15 Years	1 to 5 Years	5 to 15 Years	TOTAL
144	141	223	82	
285		305		590

The percentages of children immunised compared with the Administrative County of Glamorgan as at 31st December, 1943 are as follows :—

	Cowbridge R.D.C.	Administrative County of Glamorgan
Children 1 to 5 years	81.24 per cent.	62.3 per cent.
Children 5 to 15 years	73.05 per cent.	72.0 per cent.

(b) Tuberculosis.

Twenty-four new cases were reported for the first time during the year. There were eight deaths from the disease. Cases are visited by the Tuberculosis Visitor who makes a report on the Home Conditions, etc. All contacts of cases are advised to be examined by the Tuberculosis Officer of the Welsh National Memorial Association. The premises and bedding are disinfected on the removal of a patient to a Sanatorium or after death.

(c) Scarlet Fever.

Of the 34 cases notified, 27 were removed to the Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths from this disease.

(d) Measles and Whooping Cough.

211 cases of Measles and 29 cases of Whooping Cough were notified. There were no deaths from either of these diseases.

(e) Cancer.

There were 21 deaths from all types of cancer. This is a decrease of four from last year.

(f) Scabies.

The County Authorities exclude cases of scabies from school. Treatment in the home is carried out by the family doctor. Severe cases are removed to hospital for treatment.

(g) Typhoid Fever.

One case of Typhoid Fever was reported during the year. Full investigations were made but the source of the infection could not be traced. The patient was removed to hospital for isolation and treatment. She made a satisfactory recovery.

(h) Puerperal Pyrexia.

Two cases were reported. Both were spinsters age 16 and 17 years, respectively. The two succumbed to the disease.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Total cases notified.</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Scarlet Fever	34	27	—
Whooping Cough	29	—	—
Measles	211	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Pneumonia	5	—	11*
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Diphtheria	23	23	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	2
Typhoid Fever	1	1	—
TOTALS	305	53	15

* All types.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp'y		Respiratory		Non-Resp'y	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1		1				1		
1—5 '		1		2				
5—15	1		1	2				
15—25	2	6	1					
25—35	2	1		2	2			
35—45		1			1	1		
45—55					2		1	
55—65	1							
65 and over....								
TOTALS	6	10	2	6	5	2	1	—

SANITARY SECTION.—YEAR 1943.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

The Cowbridge Rural District Council is a constituent member of the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board. The Board was formed in 1921 and has proved to be a very progressive Undertaking. From its inception it has done all possible to extend water mains to all parts of the Rural Area. During the last ten years no fewer than 32 extensions have been carried out. The District Council was one of the first to submit schemes under the Rural Water Supplies Act, 1933 and at the present time water under pressure is available in each parish within the district. The supply has always been constant and at no time has it been necessary to restrict the supply through drought. 92.22 per cent. of the houses in the area are connected to water mains. The balance of 7.78 per cent. is made up chiefly of isolated houses and farm houses. The Ministry of Agriculture provide financial assistance to owners of isolated farms and this should result in many additional properties connected to the Public Mains. It would be of considerable advantage if a somewhat similar scheme could be brought about for the provision of water to isolated private houses.

The sources are chiefly springs located in this area, and in the areas of adjoining local authorities, and in some instances upland surface water. The pressure is good except in some high localities. In one case a pressure of 130 lbs. per sq. in. can be obtained.

In the northern part of the area the supply is chiefly soft (varying between 2.2° and 8.0° of total hardness), while in the south the water is very hard. (Total hardness varying between 16° and 19° total hardness).

Number of inspections made during the year in connection with						
water supplies .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	165
Number of informal notices .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Number of properties provided with water under pressure .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21

RAINFALL.

Rainfall for 1943 (Llanharan Station) .....	.....	48.20 ins.
Rainfall for 1943 (St. Athan Station) .....	.....	34.96 ins.
Average rainfall for last five years (Llanharan) .....	.....	48.60 ins.

WATER SAMPLES.

Five samples were taken from public and private supplies. Each proved to be satisfactory.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

(a) Inspection of drainage, sewers, and sewage disposal works	295
(b) Number of drains choked and released	97
(c) Connections to the Public Sewer, year 1943	7
(d) Drainage remodelled during 1943	9
(e) Old cesspools emptied and closed in	5

3. Rivers and Streams.

It was not found necessary to refer any complaints under this head to the Glamorgan County Council.

4. Closet Accommodation.

Conversions from pail to water carriage system	2
--	---

5. Public Cleansing.

(a) COLLECTION.

During the year the Council extended their scheme for the removal of house refuse to include the whole of the Rural Area (with the exception of very isolated parts). The villages were grouped together for convenience. The Contracts are as follows :—

House to House Collections	11 contracts.
Collection from Public Bins	1 contract.
TOTAL	12 contracts.

(b) DISPOSAL.

A site was secured near Llanmihangel, Cowbridge, for the disposal of the refuse from the southern portion of the area. The land is leased and consists of approximately $4\frac{3}{4}$ acres. The previous sites in the south were covered with a layer of earth and handed back to the farmer.

6. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

A group of three houses were treated during the year.

7. Schools.

The sanitary condition of the schools remain the same as previous years.

8. Factories Act, 1937.

Improvements to sanitary conditions were made at one factory. A new water closet, complete with building, drainage and cesspool was provided in substitution of a pail closet.

9. Petroleum.

There were no prosecutions during the year.

Number of Petroleum Licences issued during the year, 26

10. Shops and Offices.

No action was necessary under this head.

11. Camping Sites.

No sites were licenced in the area during the year.

12. Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary under this head.

13. Cinemas.

The two cinemas in the area are systematically inspected.

14. Swimming Baths and Pools.

Special samples of water were taken from a swimming bath used by members of H.M. Forces. The chemical analysis was satisfactory but the bacteriological examination showed a high B.Coll content.

Table No. 2 INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1.—*Milk Supply.*

(a) Number of inspections made at Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops	.....	.....	.....	426
(b) Informal Notices	.....	.....	.....	37
(c) Work carried out	.....	.....	.....	27
(d) Examination of samples for Bacteriological purposes—				
(i) Ungraded and Untreated	.....			15
(ii) Pasteurised	.....	.....		12

2.—*Food and Drugs Act, 1938. (Milk and Dairies.)*

(a) Applications for Registration—				
(i) Producers	.....	.....		18
(ii) Farms as Dairies	.....	.....		18
(iii) Purveyors of milk	.....			27
(b) Registration cancelled by reason of ceasing to produce milk				
(i) Producers	.....	.....		42
(ii) Farms as Dairies	.....	.....		42
(iii) Retail Purveyors of Milk	.....			26
				—
(c) Number of Producers registered	.....	.....		274
(d) Number of Farms as Dairies	.....	.....		274
(e) Wholesale traders	.....	.....	.....	1
(f) Retail Purveyors of Milk	.....	.....		98

3.—*Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 268 (Preserved Foods, etc.).*

Number of Licenced Premises for the preparation and manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale		15
--	-------	-------	--	----

4.—*Milk (Special Designations) Regulations*

(a) Number of Pasteurising Plants registered	.....			1
(b) Number of Supplementary licences issued	.....			1

5. *Meat and other Foods—*

Details of unsound foodstuffs inspected and surrendered as unfit for human consumption during 1943:—

	lbs.	ozs.
Fresh Meat, Bacon and Ham	1,004	2
Meat Offal	15	—
Tinned Meat and Tinned Fish	170	7 (100 tins).
Condensed Milk	734	12 (844 tins)
Butter and Margarine	928	4
Potatoes	952	—
Flour	9	—
Chocolate	2	$\frac{1}{2}$
Cheese	2	8
Spice	9	12
Other miscellaneous tinned Foods	180	9 (33 tins)
Dried Peas	336	—
 Total Meat and other Foods	 —	 —
surrendered	4,344	$6\frac{1}{2}$ (977 tins)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. *Summary of Milk sample results :—*

- (a) Untreated milk—1 satisfactory, 5 unsatisfactory.
- (b) Ungraded milk—3 satisfactory, 6 unsatisfactory.
- (c) Pasteurised milk—9 satisfactory, 3 unsatisfactory.

TABLE 1.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	No. of Inspections	Informal Notices	Work done	Work not done	Work in hand	Statutory Notices	Work done	Work not done	Work in hand	Demolition orders
Sewers & Sewage Disposal	57									
Drains Inspection and Testing	238	13	10	3	....	2	2			
Meat and other Foods	75									
Cowsheds, Dairies Milk- shops	426	37	27	10						
Housing	322	175	175							
Housing Recorded	10									
Public Health Nuisances	301	168	164	4						
Infectious Disease Insp's	114									
Disinfections	62									
Workshops, Factories	10	1	1							
House Refuse Collection and Disposal	401									
Water Supplies	165	23	21	2						
Cinemas	4									
Works in Progress	162									
General	1240									
TOTAL	3587	417	398	19	....	2	2	....	....	....

Table No. 3.

**SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT IN THE
DISTRICT IN PURSUANCE OF INSPECTIONS
MADE AND NOTICES SERVED.**

1.—*Interiors of Houses—*

a. Houses in which repairs to plastering brickwork or woodwork have been carried out	14
b. Portable Boilers, Back Boilers repaired	11
c. Houses without sufficient means of ventilation, window openings enlarged or repaired	13
d. Floors relaid or repaired	3
e. Fireplaces repaired	81
f. Ceilings refixed	8

2.—*Exteriors of Houses—*

a. Defective roofs made watertight	15
b. Houses without eaves gutters, gutters repaired or provided, etc.	32
c. Damp Walls - Brickwork repaired or covered with impervious material	2
d. Dangerous chimneys repaired or repointed	11
e. Miscellaneous	3

3.—*Drainage—*

a. Sink and sink waste repairs	13
b. Number of manhole inspection chambers provided to drainage system	1
c. Choked drainage system opened and cleansed	97
d. New drains	9

4.—*Privies, Water Closets, and Ashpits—*

a. Sanitary Pails provided	2
b. Defective W.C.'s, repaired and made good	19
c. Baths and connections made good. Flushing pro- vided to Water Closets	40
d. Cesspools emptied	6

5.—*Water Supply—*

a. Repairs to cold water services, etc.	37
c. Hot water services repaired	68

